

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00 ACDE-00 NRC-05
/088 W

-----010328 301640Z /41

O R 301619Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9497
INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10954

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL - SLOSS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: REVISED FRG APPROACH TO DATA

REF: STATE 152272 DTG 300139Z JUN 77

1. RUTH AND RUECKRIEGEL BOTH EMPHASIZED TODAY THAT THE
FRG STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH (PARA 5, REFTEL) WAS NOT
DESIGNED TO DELAY REACHING THE FINAL STAGE OF TABLING
DISAGGREGATED DATA ON "OTHER PERSONNEL." RATHER, THE
STEPS COULD UNFOLD RELATIVELY QUICKLY IF THE SOVIETS
TABLED LEGITIMATE DATA ON THEIR MAJOR UNITS.

2. AS RUTH EXPLAINED IT, THE FRG ENVISAGED DESCRIBING
THE COMPLETE WESTERN APPROACH TO THE EAST FIRST. THE
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WEST WOULD INDICATE THE STEPS WE WERE PREPARED TO TAKE
IN THE DATA DISAGGREGATION DISCUSSION.

3. A KEY STEP, ACCORDING TO RUTH, WHICH MIGHT NOT YET
BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD BY THE OTHER ALLIES, WAS THAT
OVERALL FIGURES FOR MANPOWER BOTH IN MAJOR UNITS AND IN
THE "OTHER PERSONNEL" CATEGORY WOULD BE PLACED ON THE

TABLE TO START THE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS. FOR EXAMPLE,
THE WEST COULD TABLE THE FOLLOWING FIGURES:

GROUND FORCE MANPOWER CATEGORY	TOTALS
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MAJOR UNITS	489,000
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"OTHER PERSONNEL	242,000
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IN THIS MANNER, THE EAST WOULD KNOW AT THE START OF THE
DISCUSSION HOW MANY RESIDUAL PERSONNEL WOULD BE INCLUDED
IN THE "OTHER PERSONNEL" CATEGORY.

4. FOLLOWING THE ABOVE FIRST STEP, BOTH SIDES WOULD THEN
TABLE FIGURES ON MANPOWER IN MAJOR UNITS. RUTH INDICATED
THE FRG CRITERIA FOR PROCEEDING TO THE NEXT STEP --
TABLING OF DIVISIONAL DATA IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE EAST --
WOULD BE TO DECIDE WHETHER THE EASTERN FIGURES WERE
SATISFACTORY. RUTH EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF ENSURING
THAT THE SOVIETS WERE NOT HOLDING ANYTHING BACK.
HOWEVER, ASSUMING SUCH FIGURES WERE SATISFACTORY, THEN
BOTH SIDES COULD PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY TO THE NEXT STEP
OF TABLING DIVISIONAL DATA, IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE EAST.
IF NOT ACCEPTABLE, THEN THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO TABLE
DATA ON "OTHER PERSONNEL."

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5. RUTH STRESSED THAT THE FRG DID NOT WANT TO BE
TIED TO A STRICT TIMETABLE WITH ITS STEP-BY-STEP
APPROACH. NEVERTHELESS, HE INDICATED CLEARLY FRG WILLING-
NESS TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT STEP IN THE SEQUENCE ONCE
THE WEST HAD EVALUATED THE MEANING OF THE FIRST FIGURES
TABLED.

6. RUTH TWICE MADE THE POINT AT DIFFERENT TIMES IN THE
CONVERSATION THAT THE FRG'S STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH AND
THE ISSUE OF INCLUDING LANGUAGE ON NATIONAL REDUCTION
COMMITMENTS IN THE GUIDANCE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS
SEPARATE ITEMS, BUT THAT THE GUIDANCE MUST ACCOMMODATE
BOTH ELEMENTS.

7. REGARDING NUMBER OF PERSONNEL IN INTERNATIONAL
STAFFS (PARA 2, REFTEL), THE FRG PRESENTLY HAD A FIGURE
OF 6,000 FOR GROUND FORCES. THE FRG CONCURRED, RUECK-
RIEGEL STATED, THAT A CONCISE DEFINITION OF PERSONNEL
INCLUDED IN THIS CATEGORY MUST BE DEVELOPED AND AGREED
UPON. ON A MINOR POINT, RUECKRIEGEL INDICATED THE FRG
NO LONGER LIKED THE WORD "INTEGRATED" ALLIANCE HEAD-
QUARTERS AND PLANNED TO SUGGEST EITHER "INTERNATIONAL"

OR "MULTINATIONAL."

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8. REGARDING NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION OF UNITS BY THEIR
"OFFICIAL DESIGNATIONS" (PARA 3, REFTEL), RUECKRIEGEL
SAID THAT THE FRG CONSIDERED SUCH IDENTIFICATION
"INCIDENTAL" AND SOMETHING WHICH COULD NOT BE AVOIDED.
HE EMPHASIZED THE STRONG, CONTINUING FRG RELUCTANCE TO
SUBMIT DATA ELEMENTS TO THE EASTERN SIDE WHICH COULD THEN
BE ADDED UP TO ARRIVE AT NATIONAL SUB-TOTALS. NEVER-
THELESS, THE FRG COULD ACCEPT OFFICIAL
DESIGNATIONS WHICH INCLUDED NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION,
I.E., I (GE) CORPS.

9. THE FRG CONCURRED, RUECKRIEGEL CONTINUED, THAT A
DIVISIONAL EXCHANGE (PARA 4, REFTEL) WAS NOT AN ESSEN-
TIAL PREREQUISITE FOR THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE DATA
EXCHANGE. THE FRG WAS READY TO MAKE THIS CLEAR, BUT
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BELIEVED THE OFFER TO EXCHANGE DIVISIONAL DATA SHOULD BE MAINTAINED -- EVEN IF THE EAST REJECTED IT -- FOR THE EVENTUALITY THAT FURTHER DATA DISAGGREGATION MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO CLEAR UP THE DISCREPANCIES.

10. RUECKRIEGEL SAID THE FRG ENVISAGED THE TABLING OF AIR MANPOWER DATA (PARA 5, REFTEL) PROCEEDING IN A PARALLEL MANNER TO THAT FOLLOWED FOR GROUND MANPOWER. A GLOBAL FIGURE ON AIR MANPOWER SERVING ON INTERNATIONAL STAFFS WOULD BE PRESENTED JUST AS THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH ON GROUND MANPOWER INCLUDED A COMPARABLE FIGURE FOR GROUND MANPOWER SERVING ON SUCH STAFFS. THE FRG AGREED THAT ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO EXCHANGE AIR MANPOWER DATA FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OF GROUND MANPOWER DATA MUST BE MADE CLEAR IN THE OVERALL APPROACH. RUECKRIEGEL REFERRED US TO PARA 2 OF THE FRG DRAFT TEXT (USNATO 06106) WHICH TRIED TO CONVEY THIS POINT. HE NOTED THAT FRG WILLINGNESS TO AGREE TO SUCH AN APPROACH REPRESENTED A CONCESSION ON ITS PART GIVEN THE WELL-KNOWN GERMAN POSITION TO FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES IN MBFR.

11. REGARDING NATIONAL REDUCTION COMMITMENTS (PARA 6, REFTEL), THE FRG AGREED, ACCORDING TO RUECKRIEGEL, THAT THE AHG MAY DETERMINE THE TIMING AND MODALITIES FOR USE OF THIS INFORMATION. THAT, HE NOTED, WAS THE IMPLICATION OF THE PHRASE "IF NECESSARY." RUECKRIEGEL ALSO AGREED THAT THE PHRASE "EXCEPT ON AN ILLUSTRATIVE BASIS" COULD BE DELETED.
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